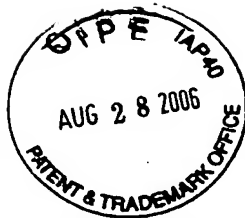


Attorney Docket: 081468-0308639
Client Reference: P-1831.000-US



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:
HOL et al.

Confirmation Number: 9376

Application No.: 10/796,291

Group Art Unit: 2834

Filed: March 10, 2004

Examiner: JONES, J.

Title: LITHOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, LORENTZ ACTUATOR, AND DEVICE
MANUFACTURING METHOD

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COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE


Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Applicants confirm with appreciation the receipt of the Notice of Allowability for this application. However, in the Office Action of April 12, 2006, the Examiner provided a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter. Applicants respectfully traverse these reasons.

In particular, Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter of the allowed claims are patentable for their respective recitations of the claimed combination of elements *as a whole*. That is, the patentability of the claims rests squarely on the combination of recited elements and limitations without any particular criticality or distinguishing feature being attributable to any one or more of such features, and without any narrowing interpretation being imposed on any of such features. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that no one element or limitation in particular should be deemed to impart to or be required for patentability of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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